

CLAIMS

I claim:

- 5 1. A method for recording a stereoscopic image of a wide field of view, up to a complete sphere, including the steps of:
 - i. aligning at least two line scan devices within the field of view such that their optical axes are in the same plane, separated, approximately parallel, and pointed in the same direction;
 - 10 ii. rotating said line scan devices simultaneously about an axis of rotation, the axis of rotation being approximately perpendicular to said plane and disposed equidistant to and between said line scan devices, said rotation being at the rate of at least 500 rpm;
 - iii. sampling the output of said line scan devices at least 1000 times each during
15 said rotation, to produce scans from each sensor; and
 - iv. processing said scans so as to assemble a composite image having stereoscopic separation throughout the image.
- 20 2. The method of claim 1, with the additional steps of placing duplicates of said line scan devices in rotated positions around said optical axis, and adjusting the timing of the recording of the additional scans produced by said duplicates so that they appear interleaved with the scans produced by the original line scan sensors.

3. The method of claim 1, with the additional step of adjusting the convergence of the stereoscopic image by digital delays of the scans.

5

10

15

20